

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

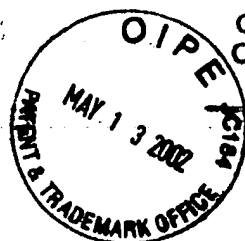
Applicant(s): T. Berg et al.

Application Serial No.: 10/045,797

Group Art Unit: 2185

Filed: January 9, 2002

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MULTI-PATH DATA
STORAGE RETRIEVAL



Box DD
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed herewith is a Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 CFR. § 1.56 in connection with the above-identified application, which statement is being filed:

- ☐ Together with the present application.
- ☒ Before the first Office Action on the merits or three (3) months from the filing date of this application, whichever occurs last. [37 CFR § 1.97(b)]
- ☐ After the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first. [37 CFR § 1.97(c)]
- ☐ After a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, but prior to or with payment of the Issue Fee. [37 CFR § 1.97(d)]

Consistent with Applicant's obligations pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, the following requirements have been met:

- ☒ No separate requirements are needed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.

Docket: BEA920000020US1
Serial No.: 10/045,797

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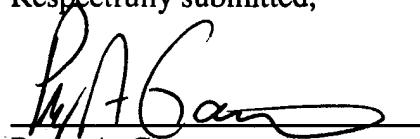
IDS Transmittal
May 1, 2002

Provision of Copies of References

- ☒ [X] Copies of all cited references are enclosed.
- ☐ [] A copy of the ABSTRACT of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-SB08A is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.
- ☐ [] A partial translation of Reference ____ is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.
- ☐ [] A copy of the European Search Report from a corresponding or related EPO application is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ [] A copy of the International Search Report from a corresponding or related PCT application is enclosed herewith.
- ☒ [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501336. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is attached.

Date: 17 May 2002

Respectfully submitted,



Pryor A. Garnett

Registration No. 32,136

IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law Dept., EDO2-06
15450 SW Koll Parkway
Beaverton, OR 97006-6063

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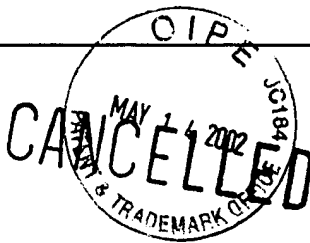
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DATA STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL

Attorney Docket No.: BEA920000020US1



Group Art Unit: 2185

Examiner: Unassigned

Box DD
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

MAY 16 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(b).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO SB08A-Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Date: 1 May 2002
IBM Corporation
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Respectfully submitted,

By P. A. Garnett
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